

8th August 1963]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide Answer to Short Notice Question No. 1 on page 249 supra.]

The following measures have been taken by Government for the rehabilitation of displaced goldsmiths :—

(1) (a) Four Industrial Co-operative Societies for the manufacture and sale of 14 carat gold ornaments, silver vessels and precision parts in metal, etc., with goldsmiths as members have been organised at Madras, Madurai, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli. The scheme is expected to provide employment for 50 persons at each centre and involves a total expenditure of Rs. 6,12,800.

(b) The question of setting up a co-operative gold refinery for the manufacture of 14 carat gold for supply to the four industrial co-operatives of displaced goldsmiths and to individual goldsmiths is under active consideration.

(2) Orders have been issued to the Employment Exchanges to register the goldsmiths thrown out of employment and who seek assistance, without regard to their age and educational qualifications and sponsor such candidates against suitable vacancies notified by the Government Departments. The priorities in the matter of placement in vacancies in Government Offices have also been revised giving the goldsmiths the highest priority after war service candidates. Orders have also been issued to the effect that candidates who possess qualifications approximating to the prescribed ones may be nominated by the Employment Exchanges for various appointments.

(3) Instructions have been issued for the grant of loans up to Rs. 2,000 under the State Aid to Industries Act for setting up even common-place and processing industries in relaxation of the existing policy of granting such loans only for such of those industries as produce essential consumer goods and other articles or ancillary parts to feed larger industries that are in short supply. Loans to the extent of Rs. 2,18,000 have been sanctioned to the goldsmiths up to the 15th July 1963 under the scheme.

(4) A scheme for the disbursement of a loan up to Rs. 1,000 for a single member in a family of displaced goldsmiths to enable him to set up a petty trade has also been sanctioned by Government. The loan will be sanctioned on the personal security to be furnished by the applicant and it will be disbursed in two equal instalments. A provision of Rs. 5 lakhs has been made for this scheme for the present. Loans to the extent of Rs. 1,44,800 have been sanctioned under the scheme up to 15th July 1963.

(5) Orders have been issued to the effect that displaced goldsmiths should be admitted in all Industrial Training Institutes relaxing the age limit and educational qualification, provided they are otherwise qualified.

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(6) Preference will be given to the displaced goldsmiths in the matter of admission in the Workshop Wings for training in Blacksmithy and Carpentry in the Rural Extension Training Centres at T. Kallupatti, Bhavanisagar, S. V. Nagaram and Pattukkottai.

(7) When selecting candidates for drivers' training schemes in the State Transport, preference will be given to goldsmith applicants.

(8) Provision has been made for giving training to the displaced goldsmiths in the following units under the Industries Department to the extent indicated against each :—

(a) Training Centre for the manufacture of Art Plates at Kumbakonam—15 goldsmiths.

(b) Training Centre for Bell Metalware, Nachiarkoil—15 goldsmiths.

(c) Training Centre for Art Metal Work, Swamimalai—10 goldsmiths.

(d) Training Centre for the manufacture of Locks at Dindigul—12 goldsmiths.

The total cost involved in the schemes mentioned at (a), (b) and (c) above is Rs. 64,860 recurring and Rs. 69,000 non-recurring. A recurring expenditure of Rs. 46,000 has been sanctioned for the scheme mentioned at (d) above.

(9) Instructions have been issued to the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, Commissioners of Municipalities and Executive Officers of Township Committees to give preference to displaced goldsmiths in the matter of grant of licence under the Madras Municipalities and Madras Public Health Acts for running petty business involving grant of licence.

(10) Orders have been issued relaxing the age limit of educationally qualified candidates belonging to the goldsmiths community up to 3 years in the matter of admission in Polytechnics and Engineering Colleges from 1963-64, as in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.